

Sciarrotta Defends Junkets By Councilmen

Torrance Press-Herald

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Series II, Volume II, No. 136

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3228 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, California - Wednesday, October 4, 1967

10c Per Copy By Carrier 50c Per Month By Mail, \$18 per Year

54 PAGES



HONOR SUPERVISOR ... Supervisor Kenneth Hahn (right) receives a resolution honoring him for his leadership and dedication as a member of the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. Presenting the resolution is Mayor Albert Isen. Hahn was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1952 and now represents most of Torrance on the county board.

TAKEOVER PLANNED

City Takes Major Step on Libraries

A major step toward the establishment of a library system in Torrance was taken at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

Councilmen voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Civil Service Commission, clearing the way for county library employees to be taken into the proposed city library system. The Commission had recommended that these employees be brought into the classified service of the city of Torrance on the following basis:

- No medical or qualifying examination necessary;
 - Subject to a six month probationary period;
 - All county employees to retain all county seniority for pay and vacation purposes with the city of Torrance;
 - Employees to have the same rights as new employees with regard to residence;
 - Such results, including names, the Los Angeles County classification, city of Torrance classification, applications and other pertinent information will come to the Civil Service Commission for approval.
- The Commission had further recommended that the city attorney be directed to prepare the necessary amendment to the municipal Code enacting this changeover.

Improvement To Begin Soon

A 250 foot section of Hamilton Avenue north of Knox Street will soon be paved, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn said today.

The new pavement will join curb and gutter recently constructed under county permit by the owners of the adjacent property.

Bloodsoaked Rags

Clues in Burglary

Bloodsoaked rags and tissue were among clues found by police Monday morning when they investigated a weekend burglary at The Professional Pharmacy, 2055 Torrance Blvd.

Summoned to the scene by owner-manager Amos Plank, 4124 Pica Poste, Palos Verdes, police arrived to find pills and bottles scattered all over the floor. Great quantities of blood stained the rug, walls, and broken glass.

Police reports indicate that the burglar or burglars apparently entered a doctor's office next door to the pharmacy by forcing open a window. The thieves then bored a hole through the office wall to gain entrance to the pharmacy.

Investigating officers believe that a burglar or burglars sustained deep cuts while crawling through the hole in the wall.

After attempting to stem flow of blood with rags and tissue, the burglars proceeded to gather up quantities of dispensible syringes and hypodermic drugs. The value of the stolen goods has not yet been determined.

No suspects have been apprehended.

IN FURTHER action, the Council voted to authorize a study of the problems inherent in the "move-up pay" rule for city employees. The move-up pay rule provides that a supervisor shall be paid more than the people he supervises.

The question of move-up pay came up at the meeting of Sept. 12, at which time Capt. John Maestri of the Police Department appeared before the Council to request move-up pay during certain periods when the chief of police was absent in late 1966 and early 1967. The Council ruled that Capt. Maestri be paid five per cent more than the highest paid captain in the Police Department for the period of the chief's absence.

Torrance High Parents Going 'Back to School'

Parents in the Torrance High School attendance area will go back to school for a few hours this evening, visiting the classrooms on a schedule patterned after the daily rounds of their students at the school.

Dr. Carl Ahee, principal at Torrance High, issued invitations to parents this week inviting them to visit the classrooms, meet the teachers, and take a look at the Torrance High campus and educational facilities.

This evening's back-to-school-night will begin at 7 with a short meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association in the auditorium. A seven-period schedule of classes will follow, each class period shortened for the parents to 10 minutes.

The program is scheduled to conclude about 10 p.m. with refreshments in the school's main cafeteria, according to Mrs. Gladys M. Kennedy, curriculum coordinator for the school. The PTA will serve the refreshments.

Benefit To City Claimed

A statement in defense of "the so-called junkets" taken each year by Torrance city councilmen was issued here during Tuesday evening's Council meeting by Ross A. Sciarrotta Jr.

Many money-saving measures instituted in Torrance were the direct or indirect result of various conferences held in cities around the country, he said.

As examples, Sciarrotta pointed to the consolidation of the water and rubbish billing, the move for cooperative buying with neighboring cities and the county, and the exchange of expert services between cities.

Other ideas gleaned at these various conferences include the exchange and use of specialized equipment between municipalities, the handling of emergencies such as riots, and the solving of traffic flow from one city to another.

SCIARROTTA claimed these and other ideas made thousands of dollars for the city of Torrance, as well as saving thousands more.

Furthermore, Sciarrotta said he was willing to testify under oath that the mayor and councilmen of Torrance are conscientious in attending workshops provided at these nationwide conferences.

"LET ME point out," Sciarrotta said in his statement, "that the entire City Council of our fair city spends less than \$30,000 a year for salaries, expenses, incidentals and the so-called junkets. This is less than the amount our state spends for a single assemblyman, half as much as the county allots to a supervisor and less than just the salaries paid to councilmen in cities half our size."

Mayor Albert Isen reiterated that he believes \$1,000 per year per councilman would be adequate to cover the cost of attending these conferences.

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Teacher Salary Hike Plea 'Out of Season'

Board Split On Bid

By HENRY BURKE
Press-Herald Staff Writer

Teacher salary negotiations are out of season as far as three members of the Torrance Unified School District board of trustees are concerned.

By a 3-2 vote the trustees turned down the latest request by the teachers for more money. Monday's semi-monthly board meeting was held at the Torrance High girls' gym to take care of faculty personnel seeking another pay hike.

Richard Odgers, chairman of the Torrance Education Association, submitted a letter asking the board to adjust the salary schedule upwards at least 1.5 cent and increase benefits.

Funds would come from \$1.6 million received from the state.

SPEAKING in favor of the request was Trustee Polly Watts who pointed out other districts had taken similar action. She supported a gradual salary increase now "rather than a big bite later." Her motion was for a one per cent schedule hike to go with 4.6 per cent previously budgeted.

Dr. Donald Wilson expressed awareness that the Los Angeles School District is faced with recruiting 1,900 elementary and 1,000 high school teachers next year and he felt the best conditions are necessary to keep the people (teachers) in Torrance.

Board Chairman Bert Lynn, Dr. Owen Griffith and Bill Hanson, opposed the measure in favor of a policy to develop a formula by which all salaries are negotiated.

Hanson said, "This situation has been unpleasant, but we gave a good salary increase this year."

Lynn wants to set a scale prior to Easter for the 1968-69 school year.

Griffith, who recently replaced Dr. Kurt Shery on the board, said (See TEACHERS on A-2)



TOP TEEN ... Mary Jo Williams (right), a Torrance teenager who currently holds the Miss Junior Achievement title for Southern California, was honored recently at "JA Night in Dodger Stadium." Above, Mary Jo is shown with Patty Poulson, Queen of the World's Stewardesses, and Alfred C. Vesper, district sales manager for American Airlines, who presented her with a flight ticket for the National JA Conference in Indiana.

Miss Junior Achievement Combines Beauty, Brains

Get into a conversation with pretty 16-year-old Mary Jo Williams and you'll soon realize that, contrary to what pollsters would have you believe in recent months, many teenagers don't think that "business is for the birds."

Mary is a participant in Junior Achievement, a program for high school students who acquaint themselves with the American economic system by organizing and operating miniature corporations. Guidance for the young men and women is provided by adult advisors from prominent local firms who support the program in the interest of preserving free enterprise among the country's youth.

The young adults sell stock to raise capital, elect officers and directors, purchase raw materials, manufacture and market a product, and, hopefully, pay dividends to their stockholders.

A HIGHLIGHT of the program is the selection each spring of Miss Junior Achievement of Southern California as a feature of the Achievers' Executive Ball. Miss JA's reign is subsequently officially launched at the annual Future Unlimited Banquet at the Hollywood Palladium in May.

Last March 31, at the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel in Pasadena where the Executive Ball took place, Mary convinced a panel of judges—including Ed Platt, Chief of CONTROL on TV's "Get Smart" Show; radio personalities Al Lohman and Roger Barkley; Powell E. Smith, chairman of the board of Occidental Life Insurance Company of California; newspaper columnist Jack Smith; Mrs. Florence Whipple, noted model authority; and disc jockey Dave Hull—that she was the "fairest of the fair" in a field of eleven semi-finalists for Southern California's 1967 Miss JA title.

Selection was made on the basis of beauty, poise and personality, as well as knowledge of Junior Achievement, speaking ability (the girls were required to give a formal speech on why they wanted to be Miss JA), and business acumen—clearly a case of mixing brains and beauty.

Miss Joanie King of the John Robert Powers School in Redondo Beach has voluntarily assisted Mary in developing poise and self-assurance so vital to a young lady who finds herself rubbing shoulders with top executives of many firms. With the aid of the Powers instructors, Miss JA has received training in hair styling, make-up, walking and posture, body sculpturing, and voice and diction.

PRIOR TO the liquidation of her JA company a few months ago, Mary served as corporate secretary to Cerco, a firm that marketed ceramic mugs. "It was good training," she commented, "because I do plan to be a legal or executive secretary when I finish college."

The daughter of Mrs. Marie F. Williams of Torrance, Mary Jo is a junior at North High (See TEEN, Page A-2)

Young Motorcyclist Dies In Ambulance Collision

A motorcycle slammed into the side of a Goodhue ambulance Sunday afternoon at the corner of Crenshaw Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway, claiming the life of 23-year-old motorcyclist Allan Francis Rives, 11514 205th St., Lakewood.

Ambulance driver John Watterman Treththen III, 2735 Arlington Ave., told police that he was traveling south on Crenshaw en route to an emergency call when the collision occurred. With red light flashing and siren blaring, the ambulance came to a near stop at the intersection as the light changed.

Witnesses said Rives ignored the red traffic light, plowing into the right rear door of the ambulance as the

two vehicles entered the intersection. The motorcycle was headed east on Pacific Coast Highway at the time of crash.

Treththen and his assistant, Paul Springborn of 3504 Garnet, loaded Rives into the ambulance and took him to Little Company of Mary Hospital where he died about 5:20 p.m., an hour and a quarter after the accident occurred.

Treththen and Springborn were not injured.

Rives was employed as a paneler at Douglas Aircraft Co. in Long Beach. His body was taken to McNeerney's Mortuary, Lomita.

A 17-year-old Torrance youth suffered a broken leg and other injuries late Monday afternoon when the motorcycle he was riding collided with a station wagon on 182nd Street.

Danny Johnson, 3804 W. 180th St., told police he was headed east on 182nd Street when the station wagon turned in front of him. The Washington High School student was rushed by ambulance to Little Company of Mary Hospital.

Driving the station wagon was John Curtis Zar, also 17, of 11 Apache Lane, Rolling Hills. Zar was uninjured in the crash, which occurred as he was driving west on 182nd Street and attempted to make a legal U-turn near the corner of 182nd Place.

Zar is a student at North High School.